



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Peru Country Brief September 2020



## Operational Context

Prior to the COVID-19 crisis, Peru ranked 89 in the human development index. Despite persistent political uncertainty, its upper middle-income economy showed a steady growth largely driven by mining production and exports. This resulted in significant reductions in hunger and poverty. However, the pandemic has unveiled a structural inequality gap that threatens the food security of millions of Peruvians. With one of the highest informality rates in the region (72.5 percent), the strict lockdown measures drastically affected the livelihoods of millions of households that rely on their daily incomes for subsistence. Peru is currently among the top three countries with confirmed COVID-19 cases in the region and among the top ten worldwide.

WFP Peru has adapted its operation to provide cash-based transfers to directly support the government's response. This is combined with its well-positioned capacity strengthening role that integrates communications, social mobilization and generation of evidence.

WFP has been present in Peru since 1968.



Population: **31.2 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **89 out of 189**

Income Level: **Upper middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **12.9% of children under five years old (2017)**

## In Numbers

**USD 5.2 m** six months net funding requirements

**1,363** people assisted



## Operational Updates

- The COVID-19 state of emergency has been extended until 31 October 2020. Only three provinces nationwide remain in targeted quarantine.
- As of September, WFP's logistics support to the Government reached over 290,000 people. An estimated eight percent were Venezuelan migrants.
- Three WFP advisors are working at INDECI to provide specialized technical assistance in supplementary feeding, logistics and policy making and public management.
- 337 Venezuelan migrants and vulnerable local population affected by the COVID-19 crisis benefited from WFP's cash-based response.
- WFP continues resuming its direct field level implementation. Wiñantsik Project provided training to community agents on good nutritional practices to reduce anaemia and PROSAN Project trained smallholder farmers on how to prepare organic fertilizers.
- Eight schools in Sechura successfully joined the virtual learning groups initiated last month with three schools in Ventanilla. These are spaces where teachers can improve their nutrition capabilities, enhance the management of digital tools and create an emotional support network to deal with the crisis.
- WFP activated a joint communication campaign with the Ministry of Health to promote good health and nutrition practices in the COVID-19 context. This massive campaign includes 50 billboards in Lima with key nutrition, hygiene, physical activities and smart purchasing tips.
- WFP presented its emergency response and programmatic adaptation to the COVID-19 context to the Peruvian Canadian Chamber of Commerce and to the Minister, Vice minister and General Secretary of the Ministry of Energy and Mines.
- The Peruvian Cooperation Agency and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized a virtual meeting with Ministries and international organizations to articulate efforts for the COVID-19 response and recovery phase. WFP presented its emergency response and committed its efforts to continue cooperating with the Government.

## Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

| Total Requirement (in USD) | Allocated Contributions (in USD) | Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>46.7 m</b>              | <b>28 m</b>                      | <b>5.2 m</b>                                |

### Strategic Result 8: Strengthen partnerships for SDG results

**Strategic Outcome #1:** The Government, the private sector, academia and civil society in Peru are mobilized to jointly contribute to eradicating hunger and malnutrition by 2030.

**Focus area:** *Root causes*

**Activities:**

- Provide assistance to the Government, civil society, private sector and academia to build an alliance to achieve SDG 2, establishing targets and allocating resources and commitments towards zero hunger goals.

### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome #2:** Vulnerable groups most at risk of prevalent forms of malnutrition in Peru – stunting, anaemia, overweight and obesity – have improved nutrition status by 2022.

**Focus area:** *Root causes*

**Activities:**

- Provide capacity strengthening and technical assistance – including through South-south cooperation and technology transfer – to all three levels of government through research, evidence generation and assessments to implement innovative, inclusive nutrition intervention models adapted to the regional/cultural context.

### Strategic Result 5: Strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome #3:** National and subnational institutions have strengthened capacities to manage food security, disaster preparedness and response and social protection policies and programmes by 2022.

**Focus area:** *Resilience- building*

**Activities:**

**Activities:**

- Provide capacity strengthening and technical assistance at the policy and operational levels for national and subnational authorities to improve the integration and efficiency of social protection and disaster risk management programmes geared towards the needs of the most vulnerable populations.

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome #4:** Refugees, displaced persons and vulnerable people in Peru are enabled to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements when crisis arises

**Focus area:** *Crisis response*

**Activities:**

- Technical assistance, research and assessments, to improve the implementation of programs linked to food security and nutrition.
- Knowledge management and sharing of best practices and studies, including through South-South cooperation.

### Strategic Result 5: Strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome #5:** The Government, humanitarian and development actors are reliably supported by efficient and effective supply chain and other services and expertise throughout crisis

**Focus area:** *Crisis response*

**Activities:**

- Facilitate the provision of life-saving interventions through direct support for the government's humanitarian supply chain

## Monitoring

- In July 2020, WFP conducted a remote assessment in its direct areas of intervention (Ancash, Sechura and Ventanilla) to assess the effects of the pandemic on the food security of households with children aged 0-59 months. Results show that 95 percent of respondents experienced a decrease in their income and 31 percent had to sell their assets to satisfy their basic needs. To overcome this situation, households adopted coping mechanisms such as reducing the size of their meals and the consumption of products of animal origin.

## Capacity Building

- As food insecurity is on the rise, national social programmes continue delivering food assistance to the most vulnerable groups. WFP's advocacy for the inclusion of fortified rice into these assistance schemes is successfully advancing. The Government of San Martin has included 14 mt of this product into its social programmes and the National School Feeding Programme (QALIWARMA) has distributed 12 mt nationwide. In addition, the National Family Welfare Institute (INABIF, for its Spanish acronym) is analysing how to include this product as part of the food basket addressed to elderly groups.

## Challenges

- Peru is amongst the countries worst hit by the global COVID-19 pandemic. As the economy struggles to recover, food insecurity deepens and affects the most vulnerable households, including Venezuelan migrants. Continuous emergency response efforts will still be required in the upcoming months to tackle the persisting socioeconomic effects of the crisis.

## Donors

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